

Claims 1, 3, 7, 10, 12, 14, and 15, are amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe, comprising:  
a coupling body to closely receive the end portion of the pipe to be coupled therewith;  
a set of first class lever jaw members each having a power arm and a separate weight arm extending from an axle which forms a fulcrum, said axle having a fulcrum mounting portion extending away from the arms; and

a mounting hole in the coupling body rotatably receiving the fulcrum mounting portion of the set of lever jaw members therein as the sole mounting of the set of lever jaw members to the coupling body to establish the fulcrum for rotation of each lever jaw member about the fulcrum where rotation of the power arm about the fulcrum causes rotation of the weight arm about the fulcrum to an engaged position or to a disengaged position with respect to the end portion of the pipe when the pipe is received in the coupling body.

2. (Previously Presented) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 7, wherein the means mounting each lever jaw member and establishing the fulcrum is an axle extending into the coupling body.

3. (Currently Amended) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe, comprising:  
a coupling body to closely receive the end portion of the pipe to be coupled therewith;  
a set of first class lever jaw members each having a power arm and a separate weight arm extending from a fulcrum;

an axle extending into the coupling body to establish the fulcrum for rotation of each lever jaw member about the fulcrum where rotation of the power arm about the fulcrum causes rotation of the weight arm about the fulcrum to an engaged position or to a disengaged position with respect to the end portion of the pipe when the pipe is received in the coupling body; and

wherein the weight arm extends from the axle within the coupling body and the power arm extends from the axle outside the coupling body so as to be operable by a user.

4. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 3, wherein the weight arm and the power arm both extend from the axle in approximately the same direction.

5. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 3, wherein the weight arm is offset from the power arm.

6. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 3, wherein the position of each lever jaw member is maintained by friction against movement of the lever jaw members.

7. (Currently Amended) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe, comprising:  
a coupling body to closely receive the end portion of the pipe to be coupled therewith;  
a set of first class lever jaw members each having a power arm and a separate weight arm extending from a fulcrum; and

means mounting each lever jaw member of the set of lever jaw members to the coupling body to establish the fulcrum for rotation of each lever jaw member about the fulcrum where rotation of the power arm about the fulcrum causes rotation of the weight arm about the fulcrum to an engaged position or to a disengaged position with respect to the end portion of the pipe when the pipe is received in the coupling body; and

wherein the end portion of the pipe to be received in the coupling body includes an end and a shoulder facing away from the end, wherein the coupling body extends over the shoulder when the end portion of the pipe is inserted into the coupling body, whereby the weight arms arm of the set of lever jaw members ~~engage~~ engages the shoulder to secure the coupling to the pipe end portion when in engaged position.

8. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 7, wherein the shoulder is formed by a groove in the end portion of the pipe.

9. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 1, wherein the coupling is secured to the end of a pipe to couple to the end of another pipe.

10. (Currently Amended) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 1, wherein the coupling joins two pipes in end to end relationship, each pipe having an end portion, wherein the coupling body is adapted to closely receive the end portion of each of the two pipes to be joined in end to end relationship, the set of lever jaw members being located with respect to the coupling body to engage the end portion of one of the two pipes to be joined, the coupling further including a second set of first class lever jaw members each having a power arm and a separate weight arm extending from an axle which forms a fulcrum, said axle having a fulcrum mounting portion extending away from the arms, a mounting hole in the coupling body ~~rotatably~~ receiving the fulcrum mounting portion of the set of lever jaw member of the second set of lever jaw members therein as the sole mounting to the coupling body to establish the fulcrum for rotation of each lever jaw member of the second set of lever jaw members about the fulcrum where rotation of the power arm about the fulcrum causes rotation of the weight arm about the fulcrum to an engaged position or to a disengaged position with respect to the end portion of the other pipe when received in the coupling body, the second set of lever jaw members being spaced from the set of lever jaw members and located with respect to the coupling body to engage the end portion of the other of the two pipes to be joined when the other pipe is received in the coupling body and the lever jaws of the second set of lever jaw members are rotated to an engaged position, and to disengage the end portion of such other of the two pipes when the lever jaws of the second set of lever jaw members rotate to a disengaged position.

11. (Previously Presented) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 15, wherein the means mounting each lever jaw member and each second lever jaw member and establishing the fulcrum is an axle extending into the coupling body.

12. (Currently Amended) A coupling for joining two pipes in end to end relationship, each pipe having an end portion, wherein the coupling body is adapted to closely receive the end portion of each of the two pipes to be joined in end to end relationship, comprising:

a coupling body to closely receive the end portions of each of the two pipes to be joined in end to end relationship;

a first set of first class lever jaw members each having a power arm and a separate weight arm extending from a fulcrum;

an axle extending into the coupling body to establish the fulcrum for rotation of each lever jaw member of the first set of lever jaw members about the fulcrum where rotation of the power arm about the fulcrum causes rotation of the weight arm about the fulcrum to an engaged position or to a disengaged position with respect to the end portion of one of the two pipes to be joined when the end portion of the one of two pipes to be joined is received in the coupling body;

a second set of first class lever jaw members each having a power arm and a separate weight arm extending from a fulcrum;

an axle extending into the coupling body to establish the fulcrum for rotation of each lever jaw member of the second set of lever jaw members about the fulcrum where rotation of the power arm about the fulcrum causes rotation of the weight arm about the fulcrum to an engaged position or to a disengaged position with respect to the other end portion of the pipe when the other end portion of the pipe is received in the coupling body;

wherein the respective weight arms extend from the axle within the coupling body and the respective power arms extend from the axle outside the coupling body so as to be operable by a user.

13. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 10, wherein the coupling body includes at least one gasket sealing means for sealing around the ends of the pipes to be joined to prevent leakage therefrom.

14. (Currently Amended) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 1, wherein the coupling joins two pipes in end to end relationship, each pipe having an end portion and a shoulder in the end portion of the pipe, wherein the coupling body is adapted to closely receive the end portion of each of the two pipes to be joined in end to end relationship, the set of lever jaw members being located with respect to the coupling body to engage the shoulder in the end portion of one of the two pipes to be joined, the coupling further including a second set of first class lever jaw members each having a power arm and a separate weight arm extending from an axle which forms a fulcrum, said axle having a fulcrum mounting portion extending away from the arms, a mounting hole in the coupling body rotatably receiving the fulcrum mounting portion of each set of lever jaw member of the second set of lever jaw members therein as the sole mounting to the coupling body to establish the fulcrum for rotation of each lever jaw member of the second set of lever jaw members about the fulcrum where rotation of the power arm about the fulcrum causes rotation of the weight arm about the fulcrum to an engaged position or to a disengaged position with respect to the end portion of the other pipe when received in the coupling body, the second set of lever jaw members being spaced from the set of lever jaw members and located with respect to the coupling body to engage the shoulder in the end portion of the other of the two pipes to be joined when the other pipe is received in the coupling body and the lever jaws of the second set of lever jaw members are rotated to an engaged position, and to disengage the groove of such other of the two pipes when the lever jaws of the second set of lever jaw members rotate to a disengaged position.

15. (Currently Amended) A coupling for joining two pipes in end to end relationship, each pipe having an end portion and a shoulder in the end portion of the pipe, wherein the coupling body is adapted to closely receive the end portion of each of the two pipes to be joined in end to end relationship, comprising:

a coupling body to closely receive the end portions of each of the two pipes to be joined in end to end relationship;

a first set of first class lever jaw members each having a power arm and a separate weight arm extending from a fulcrum;

means mounting each lever jaw member of the first set of lever jaw members to the coupling body to establish the fulcrum for rotation of each lever jaw member of the first set of lever jaw members about the fulcrum where rotation of the power arm about the fulcrum causes rotation of the weight arm about the fulcrum to an engaged position or to a disengaged position with respect to the end portion of the pipe when the pipe is received in the coupling body;

a second set of first class lever jaw members each having a power arm and a separate weight arm extending from a fulcrum;

means mounting each lever jaw member of the second set of lever jaw members to the coupling body to establish the fulcrum for rotation of each lever jaw member of the second set of lever jaw members about the fulcrum where rotation of the power arm about the fulcrum causes rotation of the weight arm about the fulcrum to an engaged position or to a disengaged position with respect to the end portion of the pipe when the pipe is received in the coupling body; and

wherein the coupling body is substantially cylindrical and of a length to extend over the circumferential shoulder of the one pipe of two pipes to be joined end-to-end and over the shoulder of the other of the two pipes to be joined, wherein the first set of lever jaws is located at one end of the body and the second set of lever jaws is located at the other end of the body.

16. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 15, wherein the coupling body includes a gasket sealing means around each of the ends of the pipes to be joined for sealing around the ends of the pipes to be joined to prevent leakage therefrom.

17. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 1, wherein the coupling body includes at least one gasket sealing means for sealing around the end of the pipe to be joined to prevent leakage therefrom.

18. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 17, wherein the end portion of the pipe to be received in the coupling body includes an end, and additionally including a groove in the coupling body for receiving and holding a portion of the at least one gasket and positioned so that the at least one gasket held in the groove contacts the end of the pipe when received in the coupling body.

19. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 17, wherein the end portion of the pipe to be received in the coupling body includes a sloped end portion, and additionally including a groove in the coupling body for receiving and holding a portion of the at least one gasket, the groove having a sloped surface and being positioned so that the sloped surface of the groove is adjacent the sloped end portion to form a continuous sloped surface and the gasket held in the groove contacts the continuous sloped surface.

20. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 17, wherein the gasket is an inverted "U" type seal.

21. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 17, additionally including a groove in the coupling body for receiving and holding a portion of the at least one gasket and positioned so that the gasket held in the groove contacts the end of the pipe when received in the coupling body.

22. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 17, wherein the at least one gasket is a diaphragm seal.

23. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 1, wherein the coupling joins two pipes in end to end relationship, each pipe having an end portion, wherein the coupling body is adapted to closely receive the end portion of each of the two pipes to be joined in end to end relationship, the set of lever jaw members being located toward one end of the coupling body to engage the end portion of one of the two pipes to be joined, the coupling further including

a coupling body inner end taper adjacent the other end of the coupling body;

a set of jaw members slidably positioned in the inner end taper of the coupling body so that linear movement of the jaw members toward the end of the inner end taper causes movement of the jaw members radially inwardly of the coupling body against the end portion of the other of the two pipes to be joined when the other pipe is received in the coupling body; and

means for securing the jaw members to the coupling body.

24. (Original) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 23, wherein the means for securing the jaw members to the coupling body includes linear slots through the coupling body, and bolts extending from the jaw members slidably through the slots.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously Presented) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 3, wherein the coupling body includes at least one gasket sealing means for sealing around the end of the pipe to be joined to prevent leakage therefrom.

34. (Previously Presented) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 33, wherein the end portion of the pipe to be received in the coupling body includes an end, and additionally including a groove in the coupling body for receiving and holding a portion of the at least one gasket and positioned so that at least one gasket held in the groove contacts the end of the pipe when received in the coupling body.



35. (Previously Presented) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 33, wherein the end portion of the pipe to be received in the coupling body includes a sloped end portion, and additionally including a groove in the coupling body for receiving and holding a portion of the at least one gasket, the groove having a sloped surface and being positioned so that the sloped surface of the groove is adjacent the sloped end portion to form a continuous sloped surface and the gasket held in the groove contacts the continuous sloped surface.

36. (Previously Presented) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 33, wherein the gasket is an inverted "U" type seal.

37. (Previously Presented) A coupling for attachment to the end portion of a pipe according to Claim 33, additionally including a groove in the coupling body for receiving and holding a portion of the at least one gasket and positioned so that the gasket held in the groove contacts the end of the pipe when received in the coupling body.

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